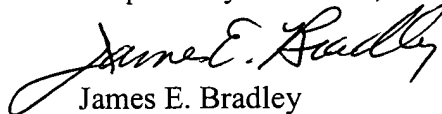


REMARKS

Applicant is submitting the amendment to the claims with corrected status identifiers for claims 5, 6, 14 and 21-23. Applicant regrets any inconvenience caused by the erroneous status identifiers of these claims as presented in the amendment to a non-final office action mailed December 29, 2003. If any fees are due, please charge them to Bracewell & Patterson, L.L.P. deposit account 50-0259.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Bradley

Reg. No. 27,536

Attorney for Applicant

Date: Feb 17, 2004
BRACEWELL & PATTERSON, L.L.P.
P. O. Box 61389
Houston, Texas 77208-1389
Tel.: (713) 221-3301
Fax: (713) 222-3287